Cyber Security Advisory Committee Report

The JCOTS Cyber Security Advisory Committee held two meetings during the 2012 interim. The Committee used these meetings to become familiar with a number of cyber security initiatives and issues. The citizen members of the Advisory Committee included representatives from the private sector, local governments, and the Commonwealth's institutions of higher education. The Committee received the following presentations:

- Staff provided a brief overview of proposed federal legislation related to cyber security. Information sharing is a common element throughout the proposed legislation. While Congress did not pass cyber security legislation in 2012, future legislation is likely.

- The Secretary of Technology's office provided an overview of the Governor's cyber security initiative. One possible goal is to develop a cyber security task force. The task force would act as first responders in case of cyber emergency.

- CIT gave an update on its cyber security palns. CIT's goal is foster new growth of cyber security companies in the Commonwealth by growth by understanding the market and the Commonwealth's cyber assets and to find ways to improve efficiencies in both product development and cybersecurity response.

- Sam Nixon, Chief Information Officer of VITA, gave an overview of cyber security within the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth has been the target of millions of cyber security attacks and has seen an increase in incidents in the last two years. Going forward VITA plans to upgrade its infrastructure, to add capability to analyze network traffic, and to increase its mobile device security

- Leslie Fuentes, Director of Technology for the City of Hampton, provided insight into the concerns of local governments over cyber security. Local governments are particularly vulnerable to cyber attacks. Increased collaboration between the state and local governments may decrease this vulnerability.

- Bradford Willke, Cyber Security Advisor for the Department of Homeland Security, discussed cyber security partnerships and initiatives. Mr. Willke highlighted the Multi-State Information Sharing Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) which partnership between several state and local governments. MS-ISAC is a "911" like system for cyber incidents.

- Dr. T Charles Clancy, Director of the Hume Center for National Security and Technology out of Virginia Tech, gave a presentation on ideas for cyber security leadership by the Commonwealth. Dr. Clancy purposed that VRS dedicate a portion of its funds to investing in cyber security companies and advocated for incentives for private entities to secure their critical cyber infrastructure.

Given the complex nature of issues surrounding cyber security , the Advisory Committee recommends that it meet again during the 2013 interim. The Committee has asked its citizen members to submit ideas and suggestions to develop a work plan for its future meetings.